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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone conversation with President Putin
of the Russia Federation (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Putin

Notetakers: Nikki Williams, Joe Morosco and
David M. Zimov

Interpreter: Peter Afanasenko

DATE, TIME July 6, 2003, 12:00 - 12:05pm EDT
AND PLACE: Residence

The President: Vladimir. (U)

President Putin: Good afternoon, George. (U)

The President: How are you? (U)

President Putin: As agreed, I called to congratulate you on your birthday. I hope you are well, I embrace you and I wish you all the best and many happy returns. Yesterday, we had another terrorist attack in Moscow. And, I appreciate very much the very quick reaction on your part and the American side, and I am very appreciative of that. I am aware of your casualties in Iraq and we also are very full of sorrow. But, today is a festive day for you and I would not like to spoil your celebration. I wish you and your family all the best. (S)

The President: Vladimir, thank you. First of all, you're the only world leader who called and I am very thankful for that. Secondly, you understand what you and I face and that is these unbelievable killers who do not value innocent life. Our

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Classified by: Gregory L. Schulte

Reason: 1.5(d)

Declassify on: 7/7/13

(prayers go to you and to the Russian people but we will stay strong. Together we will defeat these people. (U)

President Putin: I quite agree with you, George. Excuse me. (U)

The President: Go ahead. (U)

President Putin: Once again I will not torment you on this festive day of yours. I would like to congratulate and I embrace you. My best to Laura and your girls. I was told your father is visiting Russia in early September. If he comes I will try to meet with him. (S)

The President: That'd be great. He'd love to meet you. I have told him a lot about you. [REDACTED] b(6)

[REDACTED] b(6)
[REDACTED] b(6) And, you give my best to Ludmilla and your girls. (S)

President Putin: Thanks. (U)

(The President: Thanks for calling and we'll talk again soon. (U)

President Putin: All the best. (U)

The President: You're a good man. Thank you. (U)

President Putin: Bye bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --